GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:210
ANSWERED ON:04.12.2000
MIGRATION PACKAGE
SRIKANTA DATTA NARASIMHARAJA WADIYAR

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government had granted migration packages for development of cellular mobile services;

(b) if so, the result thereof; and

(c) the total loss suffered by the Government on this account?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN)

(a) to (c): A statement is laid on the table of the House.

STATEMENT IN RESPECT OF PARTS (a) TO (c) OF STARRED QUESTION NO. 210 FOR 4TH DECEMBER, 2000 REGAF
MIGRATION PACKAGE

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Cellular Operators Association of India (COAI) have informed that post-migration, the number of Cellular subscribers has increased from 12.03 lakhs approximately as on 31st July, 1999 to 27.89 lakhs approximately as on 31st October, 2000, thus registering a growth of about 131%.

(c) There has been no reduction as such in the amount of arrears of license fee in terms of the Migration Package offered to existing licensees for migration to New Telecom Policy-1999 (NTP-99) regime of revenue-sharing.The only relief provided is by way of across-the-board extension of effective date by six months (subject to the condition that any extension granted earlier was accounted for) in consideration of the delays in granting clearances etc. which led to a spate of litigation. The reduction of license fee on this account was estimated at approximately Rs.1443.58 crores. This relief of extension of effective date was, however, not granted to Metro cellular operators because they were placed in a comparatively favourable position. It is anticipated that the resultant growth of the Sector with this shift in the policy, will enhance revenue streams leading to a better realization of license fee under the revenue-sharing regime.